

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

April 22, 1999      LB 150

be no place for us to have the kind of in-depth conversation of determining what's the role and the relationship between a Public Service Commission, between private entities and public entities, and as close as we're able to get I think to a hold harmless. Curt's found it. I support his amendment and I support the bill because, of course, Senator Peterson's underlying bill, which is the slamming bill, is...is legislation that we should have done before but finally we're getting around to it. And she's put it in such excellent shape that we should not imperil LB 150. I endorse the Bromm amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. I wanted to...to simply go on to explain that I believe that the Transportation Committee of this Legislature and other parties who have any interest at all in the area will need to carry out a rather extensive study this summer and work on this entire issue. What...we'll have to try to carve out and interpret various questions and find answers to various questions which I...we've listed out a few of those, and these need to be answered in a setting of a public debate and a public hearing what is the true state of federal precedence on the question of economic regulation of businesses in the realm of telecommunications and what is the essential nature of the Public Telecommunications Network. How are we to maintain the integrity of the network, and what role does the government play in maintaining this network? What are the Legislature's powers and duties under the Telecommunications Act of '96, and how does this Opinion that I've described to you and the current state of the law interact with those federal duties? And how can the Legislature best protect the goal of Universal Service and protect consumers with respect to telecommunications? And, finally, when we wrote these questions, we hadn't arrived at a solution and we said, what is the best interim and what is the best final solution to the problem of this Nebraska Supreme Court opinion? What I'm offering for you is the interim solution for this session because I think it is essential to address it. The final solution or the ultimate position that the state wants to be in with respect to contract carriers, people like NPPD and the telephone industry, those are problems that need to be addressed after more study and more public